DECLARATION OF LIMITED LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY <u>Open Burn Ban</u>

- WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Wabash County, Indiana, ("Commissioners") is the executive of Wabash County, Indiana;
- WHEREAS, the Commissioners have the authority pursuant to I.C. 10-14-3-29 to declare a Limited Local Disaster Emergency;
- WHEREAS, Wabash County, Indiana is immediately threatened by a natural disaster-specifically county wide drought conditions;
- WHEREAS, as of September 24, 2010 at 4:00 p.m., we find Wabash County to be at risk of widespread fire hazards because of the ongoing drought conditions; and,
- **WHEREAS**, a County wide burn ban affecting certain activities is an appropriate public safety response to the fire hazards presented by the current drought conditions.
- NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to I.C. 10-14-3-29 and in accord with local ordinance, the Board of Commissioners of Wabash County, Indiana, now DECLARE and PROCLAIM that:
- 1. A limited local disaster is declared and a state of emergency exists in the County and that we hereby invoke and declare those portions of the Indiana Code which are applicable to the conditions and have caused the issuance of this proclamation, to be in full force and effect in the County for the exercise of all necessary emergency authority for protection of the lives and property of the people of Wabash County.
- 2. Effective immediately, the following activities are prohibited in Wabash County:
 - A. campfires and other recreational fires, unless enclosed in a fire ring with dimensions of 23 inches in diameter X 10 inches high or larger;
 - B. open burning of any kind using conventional fuel such as wood, or other combustible matter, with the exception of grills fueled by charcoal briquettes or propane;
 - C. the burning of debris, such as timber or vegetation, including such debris that result from building construction activities; and,
 - D. burning will be allowed in burn barrels with ¼" mesh top from dawn to dusk.
- 3. All provisions of any ordinance, rule or regulation adopted by any incorporated area within Wabash County shall be followed.
- 4. Charcoal from permitted grills shall not be removed from grills until the charcoal has been thoroughly extinguished.

- 5. Personal use of fireworks should be limited to those that do not leave the ground and the use of aerial fireworks is strongly discouraged. Residents are strongly encouraged to attend only public fireworks displays and avoid the use of any personal fireworks.
- 6. All public officials and employees of Wabash County are directed to exercise the utmost diligence in the discharge of duties required of them for the duration of the emergency and in execution of emergency laws, regulations, and directives whether state and local.
- 7. All residents are called upon and directed to comply with necessary emergency measures, to cooperate with public officials and disaster service forces in executing emergency operation plans, and to obey and comply with the lawful directions of properly identified officers.
- 8. All operating forces will direct their communications and request for assistance and operations directly to the Emergency Operations Center.
- 9. The Disaster Emergency Proclamation shall be in effect until the drought conditions and fire danger are reduced. At that time, the Wabash County Board of Commissioners shall revisit the emergency situation to determine if this Emergency Proclamation shall be revoked, extended or modified.
- 10. This Declaration shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed with the Wabash County Auditor.

So Passed And Declared this 24th day of September, 2010.

WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

barry J. Eppley, Commissioner

Brian K. Haubert, Commissioner

Scott E. Givens, Commissioner

ATTEST

Jane Ridgeway,

Wabash County Auditor